

## Amendments to the Claims

~~1-24. (CANCELLED)~~

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C1  
25. (NEW) A method of providing internet access to a network device through a first access provider, the method comprising:

in an access server, generating a logon query for a network device;  
transmitting the logon query from the access server to the network device;  
in the access server, receiving a prepaid account code from the network device to gain access to the internet through the first access provider and wherein the prepaid account code is associated with a second access provider;  
transferring the prepaid account code from the access server to a local database system of the first access provider;  
in the local database system, processing the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet through the first access provider; and  
if the network device is allowed to access the internet, providing internet access to the network device through the first access provider.

26. (NEW) The method of claim 25 wherein processing the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet through the first access provider comprises comparing the prepaid account code to information stored in the local database system and determining that the prepaid account code is associated with the second access provider in the local database system and allowing the network device to access the internet through the first access provider.

27. (NEW) The method of claim 25 further comprising if the network device is not allowed to access the internet, transferring a decline message to the access server.

28. (NEW) The method of claim 27 further comprising receiving the decline message in the access server and appealing the decline to an appeal server including transferring the prepaid account code to the appeal server and processing the prepaid account code in the appeal server to determine if the network device is allowed access to the internet through the first access provider.

29. (NEW) The method of claim 25 wherein the prepaid account code is linked to a prepaid account and wherein the prepaid account code is displayed on a prepaid account card and wherein the second access provider provides the prepaid account card to a user and wherein the user utilizes the network device and the prepaid account card to access the internet.

30. (NEW) The method of claim 29 wherein processing the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet is based on a remaining amount of time on a prepaid account associated with the prepaid account code.

31. (NEW) The method of claim 29 wherein processing the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet is based on a remaining amount of money on a prepaid account associated with the prepaid account code.

32. (NEW) The method of claim 25 wherein the prepaid account code comprises a username and a password.

33. (NEW) A system for providing internet access to a network device through a first access provider, the system comprising:

an access server configured to generate a logon query for a network device, transmit the logon query from the access server to the network device, receive a prepaid account code from the network device to gain access to the internet through the first access provider wherein the prepaid account code is associated with a second access provider, and transfer the prepaid account code from the access server to a local database system of the first access provider;

the local database system configured to process the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet through the first access provider; and

the first access provider configured to provide internet access to the network device if the network device is allowed to access the internet.

34. (NEW) The system of claim 33 wherein the local database system is configured to compare the prepaid account code to information stored in the local database system and determine that the prepaid account code is associated with the second access provider in the local database system and allow the network device to access the internet through the first access provider.

35. (NEW) The system of claim 33 wherein the local database system is further configured to transfer a decline message to the access server if the network device is not allowed to access the internet through the first access provider.

36. (NEW) The system of claim 35 wherein the access server is further configured to receive the decline message, appeal the decline to an appeal server, and transfer the prepaid account code to the appeal server, and wherein the appeal server is configured to process the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed access to the internet through the first access provider.

37. (NEW) The method of claim 33 wherein the prepaid account code is linked to a prepaid account and wherein the prepaid account code is displayed on a prepaid account card and wherein the second access provider provides the prepaid account card to a user and wherein the user utilizes the network device and the prepaid account card to access the internet.

38. (NEW) The system of claim 37 wherein the local database system is configured to process the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet based on a remaining amount of time on a prepaid account associated with the prepaid account code.

39. (NEW) The system of claim 37 wherein the local database system is configured to process the prepaid account code to determine if the network device is allowed to access the internet based on a remaining amount of money on a prepaid account associated with the prepaid account code.

40. (NEW) The system of claim 33 wherein the prepaid account code comprises a username and a password.